

The Church Guardian,

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SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

From more than one article of ours condemnatory of the substitution of the Sunday School for the scholars' attendance on Church services, we have been supposed to deny the value of such instruction and training. But, indeed, so far from that, feeling how powerful an engine for advancing the Church's work the Sunday School might be made, we have most strenuously advocated a more careful preparation and training of the teachers, and much more value and importance being attached to the work. We contend that no fixed and definite idea prevails among the great mass of the teachers as to their work and influence, and that, consequently, their duties are often irksome, and performed in a prefatory manner.

The work of the Sunday School is to our mind second only to that of the clergyman, and yet, in too many cases, the teacher has never been specially trained, indeed, very frequently is totally unfitted for the responsible position.

Teachers' Associations have been formed in some of the Dioceses and good results have followed as a matter of course, but it requires active working in each Diocese to keep up the interest, as well as to arouse the teachers to come forward for the examinations which annually take place in England under the auspices of the Church of England Sunday School Institute, and which may be participated in by every teacher throughout Canada as well as elsewhere.

A Standing Committee on Sunday Schools should exist in every Diocese, whose duties should especially lie in promoting the formation of Teachers' Associations, Parochial, Rural Decanal, and Diocesan, and in preparing or recommending suitable Text Books and Lesson Papers for the scholars' use.

What is wanted is systematic work and unity of design and purpose throughout a Diocese to make the Sunday School a most effectual promoter of Church principles, and a bond of brotherhood among the rising generation of our parishes.

A Sunday School should exist for but one purpose, viz., that of training and instructing the young in the Church's ways and doctrines; and it should embrace but two classes—the confirmed and those who are being prepared for confirmation.

We trust the time is not far distant when, as in England so in Canada, our Sunday Schools may be in truth the nursery of the Church, and when each year a good proportion of the scholars pass into the ranks of the Church's communicants.

THE CHURCH OF ROME AND THE LAND LEAGUE.

We have been in the habit of taking for granted that the influence of the Roman Hierarchy over the Irish laity was so complete that cases could scarcely arise in which opposition would be made to the well-understood wishes of the Roman authorities. But however true this may have been, it is certainly so no longer, for not only in some cases are the offices of the Church neglected and the commands of the bishops unheeded, but even threats of excommunication are being set at defiance.

We have had some very striking proofs of late that when Priest or Bishop, Cardinal or even Pope differ from the opinions and actions of the Irish politicians, nationalists and rebels, he finds himself fiercely assailed and bitterly opposed.

It is a new thing to find a Cardinal—a Prince of the Church—having to seek protection from his own people at the hands of the police, but so it is. Cardinal McCabe, who only lately received the "red hat," finds himself on his return to Dublin a marked man because he has felt bound to warn his flock against the political disloyal organizations which are doing so much to ruin Ireland. And this disloyal spirit is not confined to the men. The women who are thought to be so completely under the influence of the clergy by reason of the confessional and in other ways, have in some cases completely thrown off the restraints of their spiritual guides. A recent example is the action of the Ladies Land League of Cleveland, Ohio, which has set at defiance the threatened pains and penalties of excommunication, pronounced upon it by Bishop Gilmour. Telegrams to the secular press say:—"The breach between Bishop Gilmour and his flock is wider than ever. His letter threatening to excommunicate the lady members of the Land League was read in Catholic churches to-day. The Priests favoured the Bishop's position. A rousing meeting of the Land Leaguers was held to-night. The general statement favoured the ladies who have supported the Leaguers in the city. The ladies are determined not to disband. Mary Rowland, President of the ladies branch, has written a bitter open letter to the Bishop, saying that the women will continue the work they have undertaken. She sets the Bishop's threats of excommunication at defiance. The ladies' branch have determined to stand firm, even if they should be all excommunicated." We see to what extent has grown that communistic spirit which would throw off every restraint, and wage war against all law and order. Rome has claimed in the past to be able to control this evil, but late events have shown her utter incapacity to cope with it.

KING'S COLLEGE OF THE FUTURE.

In these critical days in the history of King's College, let us enquire what the future of the College must be, if it wishes to maintain its integrity as a University College.

King's College can ill afford to stand aloof from the sympathies of the Church people of to-day, whatever may have been its course in days gone by. The present struggle for financial support must result in some attempt at interesting the supporters of the Church of England, and make every Churchman in the Maritime Provinces feel that he has an interest in the College. But if this be accomplished, the College must give something more in return for their support, than that which is returned at the present time. It must keep its Course equal or superior to that of its sister col-

leges, if it is to continue to receive the support of intelligent Church people.

Let us examine a few points that are required to modernize the College. In the first place the Arts Course must be enlarged by the establishment of additional chairs. We would suggest that there should be established a chair of Metaphysics. Again the overworked Professor of Divinity should be relieved of English Literature, and to this department History should be attached, and a new chair created. Again, the Curriculum should be modernized to accord with the larger Universities, and French and German be made optional with Greek. But a greater revolution should be effected. It is useless to try and stem the tide in favor of Higher Education of Women. Even Conservative England has had to give way, and now women may enter and compete with men for the highest honors in London University, and if we mistake not, their admission into the two great Universities of Oxford and Cambridge is meeting with much favor and will soon be an accomplished fact. Their ability to compete is everywhere shown when once they have entered into the competition. In 1877 the highest honors in Mathematics in London University were carried off by a young lady, and mathematical training is generally considered the weakest points in woman's education. Now at Windsor we want a good preparatory school for ladies, and the doors of King's opened up to them. It is a question even now that if any lady did present herself for matriculation she could not compel the Faculty to admit her should she pass her examination.

Let us see the effect of these changes. The ladies school could have the special branches taught by the Professors of the College at a comparatively small additional cost. The Professor of English Literature and History could devote a portion of his time in both the present Academy and in the ladies preparatory department. So also with various other Professors of the College. Another feature in the future King's College is the absolute necessity of paying its Professors higher salaries, for how can men be expected to contentedly do their work when their brother professors of other colleges of no superior attainments (and we should be very sorry to have our men inferior) are receiving twice what we can now afford to give. In the Maritime Provinces there are over 100,000 Church people, and if only one dollar a head were contributed all the present improvements could be accomplished and far more, which space and a hurriedly-written article cannot here indicate. Competent men, able to present the claims of the College in a large-minded and intelligent manner, should be sent to collect for the College, that every member of the Church of England may have the matter fairly laid before them.

We shall recur to this important subject very soon again; meanwhile we trust our remarks may be accepted as those of a friend anxious to see King's College made prosperous and doing the work for which she received her Royal Charter.

An error in our article in last week's paper made us say the Alumni Association meets in Windsor on the 27th instant, when we should have announced the meeting for WEDNESDAY, THE 28TH; and the Public exercises in connection with the closing of the College take place the next day THURSDAY, THE 29TH.

We are glad to learn that our suggestion has been adopted, and that appeals signed by the